National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences

2077. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gamma Knife has been acquired by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the number of neuro surgeries proposed to be done per year with the above knife;

(c) the cost of the above Gamma Unit; and

(d) whether it has been installed and if not, by when it would be installed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Mental Diseases

2078. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of people in the country who have been afflicted by mental health diseases indicating the mentally retarded, neurotic and psychologically afflicted people;

(b) the Budget provision made for helping the people afflicted with the above mental health diseases; and

(c) whether enough trained personnel and institutions equipped with all facilities are available to deal with such people?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Community surveys of mental disorders carried out in different parts of the country during the past two to three decades have shown that about 1% of the population suffers from a serious mental disorder such as psychotic disorders and 0.5% of the population may be in need of active treatment for a serious mental disorder. It is estimated that about 5% of the population suffers from various psychological disorders such as depression, neurotic, stress related and adjustment disorders. Between the age group of 4 to 16 years,

about 1 to 2% are known to be suffering from mental retardation and 0.5% of the same age group suffers from serious mental retardation.

(b) A provision of Rs. 190 crores has been made during the Tenth Five Year Plan for implementation of National Mental Health Programme by the Government.

(c) There are over 18,000 beds for psychiatric patients spread across 37 Government mental hospitals/hospitals affiliated to the medical colleges. There are over 3000 qualified psychiatrists, 500 clinical psychologists, 300 psychiatric social workers and about 600 trained psychiatric nurses in the country. Availability of psychotropic drugs is satisfactory and the cost of such drugs is reasonable/affordable.

Adulterated Chilly Powder

2079. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chilly powder exported from India to Britain particularly its retail chains Asda, Safeway and Sainsbury's alongwith the food companies Unilever Bestfoods, Favourite, Shads and Mr. Browns are forced to pull back by some of the best selling brands;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these are adulterated with a carcinogenic dye used for colouring waxes, shoe polish and petrol; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Although chilly is a notified commodity under the Export [Quality Control & Inspection] Act, 1963, due to trade liberalization, exemptions have been given to various categories of exporters from compulsory pre-shipment inspection and quality control.

In view of the above, consignments of exports from India are not being offered for inspection to Export Inspection Agencies. As per the information made available by Ministry of Commerce, reportedly consumer products bearing brand names Favourite, Shads and Mr. Browns are reported to have been recalled from retail chains. These are not chilly powder directly exported from India but preparations containing chilly powder. However, no details have so far been received